Digital Badges for Teacher Mastery

Achieve Virtual Education Academy is Making it Happen!

WE ARE *Achieve Virtual Education Academy, an online high school operated by the MSD of Wayne Township School District. Achieve Virtual enrolls students from anywhere in Indiana who seek to earn their high school diploma.*

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES *represent a diverse student population. Achieve Virtual Education Academy serves about 200 students each semester with an additional 300 part time students from various partner school districts.*

OUR TEACHERS *receive monthly professional development dedicated to their online teaching. We have approximately 60 active teachers.*

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE *is a badging system to recognize teachers for mastery of online learning skills while publicly displaying their competencies and achievements. The badges create a pathway of expertise for our teachers and encourage persistence through a gamified system of professional development. Badging through professional development provides an opportunity to model a strategy that can be replicated with students to improve engagement in an online setting.*

OUR STEPS *started with introducing the principles of game-based learning to staff and exploring the possibility of utilizing badges. The staff worked collaboratively to brainstorm ways this strategy could be implemented with students. Because of the excitement around this particular strategy, we designed a professional development system intended to model badge earning for achievements. Using what we know about game-based learning, teachers level up by demonstrating increased expertise to meet subsequent levels of a badge. Many of our teachers have transferred this system to their online classroom by creating badging opportunities for their students.*

Learn More About Badging and Education:

- QR Code on the right will take you to the resource repository curated for Achieve teachers while they explored badging for their online classrooms
- Quality Matters (an organization dedicated to quality assurance in online courses) had a presentation on this topic. View the slideshow from this presentation at *their website*.

goo.gl/6kHQaj

For more information about our school or corporation, email: *derek.eaton@wayne.k12.in.us*
or visit our website: *achievevirtual.org*